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## Mexico

**Post:** Mexico

### Avian Influenza Outbreak Hits More Farms in Jalisco

**Report Categories:**

Agriculture in the News

Agriculture in the Economy

Market Development Reports

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Poultry and Products

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**Report Highlights:**

The National Service of Health, Food Safety, and Food Quality (SENASICA) issued 2 communications on the expansion of the avian influenza outbreak in Jalisco, Mexico. Twenty-four poultry farms are confirmed positive for the virus and other results are pending. SENASICA, for precautionary measures, expanded the monitoring zone to encompass 161 farms responsible for 25.8 million birds. Contacts indicate industry is looking to source U.S. table eggs and that some international buyers are or could be easing trade restrictions.

**General Information:**

On July 2, SENASICA [reported](#) updated information to the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) that samples were taken at 58 of the 79 poultry farms (layer, breeder, and broiler) around the high pathogenic avian influenza H7N3 outbreak area of Tepatitlan de Morelos and Acatic, Jalisco. The report indicates that of the 58 farms sampled, the virus was identified on 24 farms and that 10 farms were considered negative for the virus. Results for the remaining 24 farms are pending. SENASICA indicated that in order to reduce the risk of the virus spreading further, that the agency expanded the buffer zone by an additional 40 kilometers to include a total of 161 poultry farms (layer, breeder, and broiler operations) that are responsible for 25.8 million birds.

In 2011, according to Mexico's poultry industry organization (UNA), Mexico's poultry flock numbered around 477.5 million birds (layers, breeders, and broilers). Industry contacts report that Jalisco is responsible for more than 50 percent of egg production. UNA data also indicates the Jalisco was responsible for 134.3 million of the total 759.3 million broilers slaughtered in federally inspected and approved (TIF) slaughter plants in 2011. This makes Jalisco the largest egg-producing and broiler-producing state in the country.

On July 4, SENASICA reported [updated information](#) on its website that of the 79 poultry farms mentioned in the above paragraph, there were 14.4 million birds (86.1 percent layers, 6.9 percent broilers, and 7 percent breeders) at-risk of exposure or that had been exposed. Among the 14.4 million birds, SENASICA reports that the virus could be present, currently, in 2.5 million birds; including 987,700 birds that have died already or been depopulated. The results for the remaining 1.5 million birds are pending.

SENASICA's July 4 statement indicates that the virus has been controlled to a 40 to 60 kilometer perimeter and the agency is calling on farms to increase bio-security measures and to avoid the movement of products without the official certification. In addition, SENASICA established 8 verification/inspection points that are under the operation of the Federal Police.

All of these measures have contributed to re-opening foreign markets to Mexican poultry products. Japan, which is the main purchaser of Mexican table eggs, has lifted its restriction on processed egg products and it is expected that several African countries, that import Mexican mechanically separated chicken meat, should do the same in the near term.

Commercial restrictions are being applied to Jalisco poultry products by some Mexican states but ongoing negotiations between federal and state authorities is helping reestablish the movement of those products. SENASICA has called for the lifting of the restriction on the movement of pasteurized eggs, pasteurized liquid eggs, dehydrated eggs and processed poultry products since these products are subject to thermal processing that eliminates the virus. SENASICA has informed state governments that table egg movements are allowed provided that the eggs are disinfected.

SENASICA reports that the first lot of 2 million doses of a vaccine produced in Mexico should be ready by the end of July. By August, with the work of private laboratories, it is expected that vaccine production could reach 80 million doses. The efficacy of the vaccine will be tested, under OIE

provisions, in an isolated area near the outbreak prior to its massive application.

The Secretariat of Economy (SE) assured that the egg supply is guaranteed however, prices have increased substantially. Prices of poultry meat have also increased. Reportedly, this is not due to a lack of supply but to speculation. SE will implement a surveillance program, to be applied in all distribution centers nationwide, in order to avoid unjustified increased egg and poultry prices. Nevertheless, trade contacts indicate Mexican firms are moving forward with their plans to import U.S.-origin eggs for consumption and/or for breaking.

Information on egg and egg products export requirements is available from USDA's [Agricultural Marketing Service](#) where information specific to [Mexico](#) is available. Information on Mexico's import requirements for egg and pasteurized eggs from the United States is available from SENASICA's Modulo de Consulta de Requisitos Zoosanitarios para la Importacion ([MCZRI](#)). U.S. Census Bureau data reports U.S. egg and egg product exports to Mexico in 2011 was over U.S. \$42 million with approximately 92 percent of the value attributed to eggs for hatching. Through the first four months of 2012, Mexico imported approximately 478.5 thousand dozen fresh chicken eggs (HTS Code: 0407210000) for either fresh consumption or for breaking. This trade was valued at U.S. \$319,000.

**Author Defined:**

**For More Information**

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at [www.mexico-usda.com](http://www.mexico-usda.com) or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at [www.fas.usda.gov](http://www.fas.usda.gov) for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

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**Other Relevant Reports Submitted by FAS/Mexico:**

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
MX2043	Emergency Management System Activated to Combat Avian Influenza	7/2/2012
<a href="#">MX2040</a>	High Path Avian Influenza Outbreak in Jalisco	6/26/2012
<a href="#">MX2503</a>	Exporting to Mexico – Managing Border Entry Issues	3/22/2012
<a href="#">MX2016</a>	2012 Livestock and Products Semi-Annual	3/21/2012
<a href="#">MX2012</a>	2012 Poultry and Poultry Products Semi-Annual	3/20/2012
<a href="#">MX2004</a>	Mexico Publishes Preliminary Determination on U.S. CLQs	1/20/2012
<a href="#">MX1092</a>	New Meat and Poultry Letterhead Certificates Required	12/6/2011

**Useful Mexican Web Sites:** Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at [www.sagarpa.gob.mx](http://www.sagarpa.gob.mx), equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at [www.economia.gob.mx](http://www.economia.gob.mx) and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at [www.salud.gob.mx](http://www.salud.gob.mx). These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.

